

The Presiding Officers' Advisory Task Force on Creating a Future for Youth in Maine

**3rd Meeting – October 17, 2003
Brewer High School**

Creating Solutions – Recommendations to Retain and Attract Youth

- 10:00-10:15 a.m. Convening of the Meeting and Introductions**
Speaker Patrick Colwell and Honorable Elizabeth Mitchell, co-chairs
- Welcome and introduction of task force members
 - Review of task force duties and focus

- 10:15-10:20 a.m. Welcoming Remarks – Brewer High School**
James Frost, Principal

- 10:20a.m.-2:00 p.m. Public Testimony – What Can We Do to Retain and Attract Youth?**
Invited guests and interested parties

Invited guests include:

- Principals and students of: Brewer High School, Orono High School, Old Town High School, Bangor High School
- President Peter Hoff and students of University of Maine
- President Joyce Hedlund and students of Eastern Maine Community College
- Legislative Youth Advisory Council (*morning*)
- Chris Frank, President, Intelligent Spatial Technologies (*morning*)
- Laura Fortman, Commissioner, Department of Labor (*1:00pm*)

The Task Force invites speakers to address the following questions:

1. If the Legislature could do one thing to retain/attract young people to Maine, what would you recommend?
2. What strategies would you recommend for Maine to retain/attract:
 - High school students deciding where to attend college
 - College students deciding where to live and work after graduation
 - College graduates in their late 20s/early 30s deciding where to settle
3. As a high school or college student, what information have you received about education and job opportunities in Maine? What strategies would you recommend for getting information to students about opportunities in Maine?
4. Do you think a student loan forgiveness program for recent college graduates who remain, return, or come to Maine would be an effective in retaining or attracting young adults? What would make such a program effective?

- 2:00 p.m. Wrap-up and Discussion Among Task Force Members**